

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
(Docket No. SYN-106CN)

In re Application of:	Bird et al.	)	Group Art Unit:	TBA
		)		
Serial No.:	TBA	)	Examiner:	TBA
		)		
Filing Date:	TBA	)		
		)		
Title:	GENETIC CONTROL OF	)		
	FRUIT RIPENING	)		
		)		

Box Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Prior to substantive review, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows.

**In the Specification:**

On page 1, between the title on line 1 and the first paragraph on line 3, please insert the following heading and paragraph:

**Cross-Reference to Related Application**

This application is a continuation of now-pending U.S. patent application Serial No. 09,242,860 filed March 29, 1999, which is a national application derived from International application Serial No. PCT/GB97/02424 filed on September 8, 1997 and designating the United States.

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DATE OF DEPOSIT SEP 28, 2001